and Sundergarh Districts. The other details are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Mines	Date of closure	No. of workers Involved	Name of mines in which all the affected workers have been absorbed
1.	Gandhamardan 'A'	26.12.95	124	Gandhamardan Bl. 'B'
2.	Kalaparbat	10.7.96	52	Different mines of the lessee
3.	Balita	10.7.96	25	Baitarani Iron Ore mines

(d) and (e) All the workers affected by closure of the mines have already been employed in other mines of the lessees.

Welfare projects for working children under the Grants-in-aid scheme in Gujarat

1693. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether voluntary agencies are being assisted financially for taking up Welfare projects for working children under the Grants-in-aid scheme by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of voluntary agencies presently being financial assisted in the State of Gujarat under the scheme;

(d) whether Government propose to increase the grant to voluntary agencies of the State; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (e) Voluntary and Non-Governmental Organisations are financially assisted to the extent of 75% of the project cost under the scheme of "Grants-in-aid to voluntary organisation" for taking up action oriented projects for the benefit of child labour. The project activities include measures for prevention of child labour, improved working conditions of child labour through extension of welfare facilities like non-formal education, provision of vocational training, health check etc. Proposals received from registered voluntary and non-governmental organisations duly recommended by the State Governments are considered for financial assistance under the scheme. During 1995-96, a total 24 voluntary organisations were assisted under this scheme for implementation of different projects. However, no voluntary agencies from Gujarat had availed financial assistance under the scheme.

Policies for investments in the mining sector

1694. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop and adopt transport policies to facilitate investments in the mining sector;

(b) if so, the details of the foreign and Indian private companies which have shown interest in the mining sector of the country;

(c) whether Government have set any norms and conditions for private participation in mining sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) In mining sector grant of Prospectin Licence (PL) and Mining Leases (ML) i governed by Mines & Mineral (Regulation & Development) Act, 195